CALIFORNIA STATE LIBRARY

CALIFORNIA HISTORY SECTION

RESEARCH GUIDES

STANISLAUS COUNTY HISTORY

Stanislaus Creamery, Modesto, California.

VISIT US
California History Section
900 N Street Room 200
9:30-4 Monday-Friday

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Named after Estanislao, a Native American who led a popular uprising against Mexican rule, Stanislaus County boasted a population of about 549,815 people as of 2018. As might be expected from a county whose very name is rooted in its past, this region is filled with historic sites of many kinds, from one of the best preserved 19th century covered bridges still surviving in the U.S. to several historic mining communities and turn-of-the-century hotels and historic houses. Today, it is home to a thriving agricultural sector, Stanislaus State University, and – for the gourmands reading this – a cheese factory that offers tours. If you are looking for exciting local history resources in the California History Section's rich collections, then check out what we have for this county.

ENJOY YOUR RESEARCH.

Can't come to the library just yet? No worries. There are a number of online resources you can explore related to Stanislaus County.

Digitized Publications

A few years ago we digitized some of our more fragile publications. You can now see documents related to Stanislaus County on Internet Archive.

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URL: https://archive.org/

Type in Search Box: (Stanislaus County) AND collection:(californiastatelibrary)

Select Option: "Search Full Text of Books"

Digitized Images

We have scanned and digitized a portion of our extensive photograph collection, including images related to Stanislaus County. You can see them on Calisphere.

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URL: https://calisphere.org/institution/51/items/

Type in Search Box: ("Stanislaus County")

California State Association of Counties

Like Wikipedia but locally grown, this government website will provide basic information about Stanislaus County.

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URL: http://www.counties.org/county-websites -profile-information

County Website

Want to learn about what Stanislaus County residents have to say for themselves? Check out the county government's website.

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URL: http://www.stancounty.com/

Not finding what you need online? We have additional materials available that cannot be accessed digitally. You can use the following resources to learn about our resources.

Catalog

If you are looking for Stanislaus County materials, your best source is our catalog. You can do a general search on the catalog but also be sure to check out our specialized resources on page 8 of this research guide.

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URL: https://csl.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/discovery/search?vid=01CSL_INST:CSL&lang=en&sortby=rank

Type in Subject Box: (Stanislaus County)

California Information File II

Sometimes the catalog doesn't provide as much detail as you might like. This is why we created the California Information File II, successor to the analog California Information File I. In this resource, you can find indexing to individual articles, as well as Stanislaus County deeds, restaurant menus, pamphlets and more.
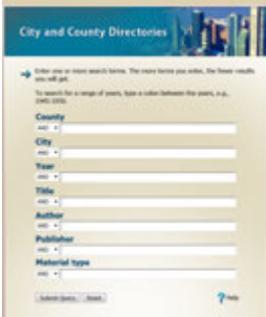
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URL: http://dbs.library.ca.gov/dbtext_html/QueryCalinfo.htm

Type in Search Box:
1. Stanislaus
2. Name of a city in Stanislaus County

City Directories

Looking for a person? How about the history of a location? You can trace this information and more via our city directories. See what we have by checking our specialized database.

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URL: http://dbs.library.ca.gov/dbtext_html/QueryCityDir.htm

Type in Search Box:

1. Stanislaus
2. Name of a city in Stanislaus County

Telephone Books

Are you not finding what you need in our city directory collection? No worries, you might find it in our telephone book collection. See what we have by checking our phone book database.

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URL: http://dbs.library.ca.gov/dbtext_html/QueryPhonebk.htm

Type in Search Box:

1. Stanislaus
2. Name of a city in Stanislaus County

Stanislaus County has a long and distinguished history. Check out our resources by type and by subject to learn more about this county's complex past.

Type

Maps   Manuscripts
Books   Newspapers
County Histories   Periodicals
Images   Vital Statistics

Subject

Agriculture

Baseball

Business

Education

Environment

Fire

Fish

Geology

Land

Legal

Medicine

Migration

Mining

Native Americans

Oil

Politics

Shipping

Railroads

Religion

Restaurants

Streets

Water

Women

Our collection predates computers and so do some of our access points. If you are in the library, be sure to check the following analog files for leads on more resources.

California Information File

In the library? Check the California Information File before you do anything else. This file indexes over 130 years of California articles, books, and manuscript collections from all 58 counties.

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Subject Headings: Stanislaus County

Map File

Looking for a Stanislaus County map? Our map file is a great place to start. We have a wide variety of maps, including Sanborn fire insurance maps. Some of our maps cover settlement patterns and even natural history.

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Subject Headings: Counties: Stanislaus

Photographic File

Sometimes a picture is worth a 1000 words and not all of our pictures are online. To check the rest of the collection search our picture file card catalog.

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Subject Headings: Counties: Stanislaus

Despite our best efforts, some of our resources defy complete description. We suggest that you ask a librarian about Stanislaus County information contained in the following resources.

Vertical Files

Our massive collection of vertical files covers a wide variety of topics including individual counties. You can check them for pamphlets, certificates and even posters related to organizations, individuals, and area histories.

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Subject Headings: Counties: Stanislaus
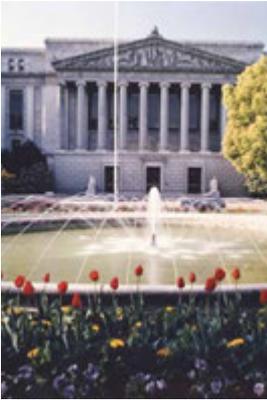

Postcard Files

Separate from our photo collection, our postcard collection contains a number of images related to Stanislaus County. Most are not online.

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Subject Headings: Stanislaus County

Can't find what you need in our collection? You may want to contact the following organizations.

Other California State Library Sections

[Government Publications Section](#)
[Witkin Law Library](#)
[Sutro Library](#)
[General Information](#)

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http://www.library.ca.gov/government-publications/
http://www.library.ca.gov/law/
http://www.library.ca.gov/sutro/
https://www.library.ca.gov/services

Other Organizations

[McHenry Museum and Historical Society](#)
[Genealogical Society of Stanislaus County](#)
[County Clerk-Recorder](#)
[Stanislaus County Library](#)
[Patterson Township Historical Society](#)
[Escalon Historical Museum](#)
[Oakdale Museum & Historical Society](#)
[California State Parks](#)

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www.mchenrymuseum.org/
www.stanislausgenealogy.org/
www.stancounty.com/clerkrecorder/
https://smcl.org/
www.plsinfo.org/
www.pattersontownshiphistoricalsociety.org/wp/
www.escalonhistoricalmuseum.org/index.html
www.oakdalemuseum.org/
www.parks.ca.gov/

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This guide is also available online at:
https://www.library.ca.gov/california-history/research-guides/